

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
6 October 2005 (06.10.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/092467 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **B01D 15/08**

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2005/006707

(22) International Filing Date: 2 March 2005 (02.03.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/550,970 5 March 2004 (05.03.2004) US

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

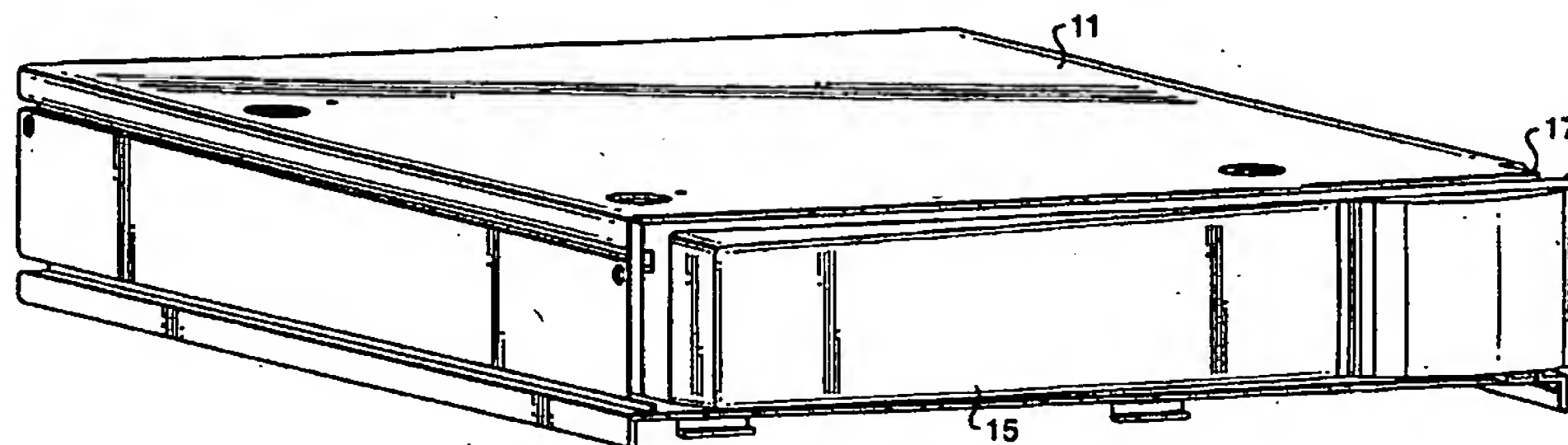
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report.

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: A DEVICE FOR HOLDING A COLUMN OR CARTRIDGE IN PROXIMITY TO A DETECTOR AND METHODS OF USING THE SAME



(57) Abstract: Embodiments of the present invention are directed to methods and devices for minimizing band spreading of compositions separated by chromatographic processes. One embodiment of the present invention features a device (11) for holding a separation column or cartridge. The device (11) includes a housing (15) having a chamber for receiving one or more columns or cartridges. The columns and cartridges have an inlet for receiving fluid and an outlet for discharging fluid and a column axis corresponding generally with the flow of fluid from the inlet to the outlet. The columns and cartridges are suitable for performing separations in which a constant temperature is desirable. The housing (15) further includes a heating element for maintaining said chamber at a constant temperature. The device (11) further includes positioning means (17) for placing the column and cartridge outlet in proximity to a detector.

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